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217 RUM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GANG LUO ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/842,991

Filed: April 26, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR PERFORMING HASH
JOIN

§ Group Art Unit: 2172

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§ Examiner: Chongshan Chen

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§ Atty. Dkt. No.: NCR.0038US
(9558)

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FEB 2, 6 2004

Technology Center 2100

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 20, 2003

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 20, 2003, the applicants submit the following remarks regarding the above-identified application.

The claims have not been amended by this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

Date of Deposit: 2/19/2004
I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.
D.L. Thomas
Dawn L. Thomas